

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the process of reducing cocoa pods to powder comprises:

freeze drying beans and pulp,
depulping the freeze dried mass,
5 dehulling the freeze dried cocoa beans, and
grinding the dehulled beans.

16. The method of any one of claims 14 or 15 wherein the process further comprises purifying the extract by gel permeation chromatography and/or by
10 preparative high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC).

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the extract contains polyphenol(s) of at least one cocoa procyanidin selected from the group consisting of: (-) epicatechin,
15 procyanidin B-2, procyanidin oligomers 4 through 12, procyanidin B-5, procyanidin A-2 and procyanidin C-1.

18. A kit for treating a patient in need of treatment with an antineoplastic agent comprising a substantially pure cocoa extract or synthetic cocoa
20 polyphenol(s) and a suitable carrier.

19. The kit of claim 18 wherein the antineoplastic agent is comprised of a substantially pure cocoa extract containing procyanidin(s); and, the kit includes instructions for admixture of ingredients and/or
25 administration to the patient.

20. A lyophilized antineoplastic composition comprising a substantially pure cocoa extract or synthetic cocoa polyphenol(s).

21. The lyophilized antineoplastic composition
30 of claim 20 wherein the composition is comprised of a substantially pure cocoa extract containing cocoa procyanidin(s).

22. An antioxidant or preservative composition comprising a substantially pure cocoa extract as claimed
35 in claim 1 or synthetic cocoa polyphenol(s).

23. A topoisomerase-inhibiting composition comprising a substantially pure cocoa extract as claimed in claim 1 or synthetic cocoa polyphenol(s).

24. A method for preserving or protecting from
5 oxidation a desired item comprising contacting the item with a composition as claimed in claim 22.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the item is a foodstuff.

26. A method for inhibiting topoisomerase
10 which comprises contacting topoisomerase with a composition as claimed in claim 23.